

The Cooper House  
In Pyne Point Park  
Camden, Camden County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

The Cooper House  
In Pyne Point Park  
Camden, Camden County, New Jersey

Owner: City of Camden

Date of Erection: Late seventeenth century,  
early eighteenth century

Architect:

Builder: Stone section built by Joseph Cooper, Sr.;  
brick unit by Isaac Cooper

Present Condition: Very good

Number of Stories: One and one-half for stone section;  
two and one-half for brick unit

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - original  
section stone; later part  
brick, Flemish bond with  
brick headers on the north  
side (which was originally  
the front), east side  
Flemish bond with red  
headers (now the front),  
rest largely five stretchers  
with header row

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers,  
recent wood shingles; pent  
roof along the front of  
brick section

#### Historical Data:

The tablet on the house reads:  
This House Erected Before 1709  
By Joseph Cooper  
Is the Oldest House  
Still Standing in Camden  
Erected by Camden Centennial Committee

However, since Joseph Cooper, Jr., son of the builder, was born there in 1691, it is logical to assume that the stone section was built about 1690. The newer and larger section of the house has no date, but it is evident that it was built before 1750. Isaac Cooper, who owned the house from 1731 to 1767, probably built this addition. By 1751 Isaac Cooper was living at Pomona Hall, so that the addition was probably built between 1731 and 1751.

Marmaduke Cooper received the house from Isaac in 1767; since he never occupied it, it is doubtful that he built the addition.

Isaac Cooper offering the property for rent gives the following description:

"To be lett for a term of ten years, from the first of March next ensuing, a plantation in the township of Newton and the county of Gloucester, situate on the Delaware River and Cooper's Creek, Where Isaac Cooper lately dwelt, about a mile and a half from Philadelphia; consisting of about 80 acres of plowing land; 20 acres of drained meadows, and half an acre of sparrow grass; a good dwelling house.....Any person inclining to rent the same may know terms by applying to Isaac Cooper aforesaid, at his dwelling, two miles from said place."

The ground upon which this house stands originally belonged to William Cooper, the emigrant, who bought the land from the proprietors of West Jersey and the Indian tribe under Tellacca in 1681. The original Cooper came from Hertfordshire. He first settled in Burlington and then moved to Pyne Point. In 1695 he deeded the ground upon which the house stood to his son Joseph. The house remained in the possession of the Cooper family until sometime between 1795 and 1858.

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